

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

# Modernizing Oregon E-Cycles: What Will Legislative Concept 477 Change?

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This summary has been prepared in collaboration with the Product Stewardship Institute for the convenience of readers and is intended to provide a general orientation to <u>Legislative Concept 477</u>. LC 477 is a draft concept and some content may be subject to more than one interpretation.

The Oregon E-Cycles Program is one of the nation's first product stewardship programs for electronics recycling. Since operations began in 2009, the Program has collected over 268 million pounds of electronic devices, preventing toxins from entering Oregon landfills and recovering precious and rare earth metals for new electronics.

LC 477 proposes changes to the Program to create administrative efficiencies and ensure a more stable and modern electronics recycling program. However, Oregon E-Cycles will continue to require manufacturers to fund and manage a program that collects, transports, and processes covered electronic devices from Oregon households and other covered entities. The table below describes what might change, and what will stay the same, under the proposed LC 477.

## **Current E-Cycles Law**

# **Changes Proposed by LC 477**

### Who Can Use the E-Cycles Program?

Households, businesses and nonprofits with 10 or fewer employees, any person giving 7 or fewer covered electronic devices to a collector at one time.



No change

#### Who Funds the E-Cycles Program?

Funded by manufacturers.



Funded by manufacturers. Exemption for manufacturers that are less than 50 covered electronic devices in a given year in Oregon.

#### What Covered Electronics Devices Will Be Accepted for Recycling?

Computers, monitors having a viewable area greater than four inches measured diagonally, TVs, printers, keyboards and mice



More electronic devices will be accepted, including: VCRs, music players, DVD players, game consoles, digital converter boxes, cable receivers, satellite receivers, routers and modems.

#### **Collection Network Requirements**

A program must establish one collection site for any city with a population of at least 10,000.

A program must also establish additional sites to meet collections determinations set by DEQ.



Increases the number of collection sites required in cities with a population of at least 10,000.

Includes a requirement that a program ensures at least 95% of residents are within 15 miles of a collection site.

Allows DEQ to approve an alternative method for convenience that adequately meets local needs.

Eliminates the collections determination process.

## **Program Implementation**

DEQ must administer a State Contractor Program.

Manufacturers may choose to implement a manufacturer program, such as through a producer responsibility organization, under a plan approved by DEQ.



Eliminates requirement for a State Contractor Program.

Allows one or more producer responsibility organizations to operate; coordination on certain program elements will be required if multiple producer responsibility organizations exist.

#### **Manufacturer Registration and Fees**

DEQ registers manufacturers and collects fees from manufacturers for covering DEQ's administrative costs.



DEQ would collect its administrative fee from the producer responsibility organizations.

#### **Equity**

Not explicitly addressed in statute.



Requires a producer responsibility organization to provide convenient service throughout state, including to rural areas and historically underserved populations.

#### **Landfill Ban**

Except for printers, keyboards, and mice, current covered electronic devices are banned from landfills.



No change to landfill ban, which applies to covered TVs, monitors, and computers. The ban would not extend to additional covered electronic devices.

#### **Alternate formats**

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